

## NEW YORK HERALD

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ifornia Editions.

Volume XXXIV.....No. 3

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO-DAY.

BETHSEDA CHAPEL, Third avenue and Thirty-fifth  
street.—Prof. NATHAN SHEPARD, Evening.CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—REV. JAMES  
D. WILSON. Morning and evening.CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION.—REV. DR. FLAGG.  
Morning and afternoon.COOPER INSTITUTE.—LECTURE BY THE REV. FATHER  
FARROW. Evening.EVERETT ROOMS.—SPIRITUALISTS. MRS. BYRNES  
Morning and evening.PORT-SECOND STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—  
REV. W. A. SCOTT, D. D. Morning and evening.FREE CHURCH OF THE HOLY LIGHT.—REV. EAST-  
BURN BENJAMIN. Morning and evening.FIFTH AVENUE REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH.—  
REV. DR. HORTON. Evening.PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Twenty-second street.—REV.  
GEORGE M. MCKENNON. Morning and evening.ST. PETER'S CHURCH, West Twentieth street.—REV.  
Geo. F. SEYMOUR. Evening.UNIVERSITY, Washington square.—BISHOP SNOW.  
Afternoon.

## TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Sunday, January 3, 1869.

## THE NEWS.

## Europe.

The cable telegrams are dated January 2.

The news from Spain confirms the defeat of the  
insurgents in Malaga. Four hundred of the rebels  
were killed and 600 taken prisoners by General De  
Roda.The insurgents fired on one of the boats belonging  
to the United States gunboat Swatara that was en-  
gaged in conveying a party of Americans on board.It is believed when the citizens in the provinces  
are disarmed a movement, which Serrano, De Roda  
and Topete favor, will be made in favor of placing  
Montpensier on the Spanish throne.At the proposed conference on the Eastern ques-  
tion all the European Powers represented at the  
Court of France, including Turkey and Greece, will  
be present. M. Lavallette, the new French Foreign  
Secretary, will preside over the conference.A despatch from Athens, received yesterday, an-  
nounces that Hobart Pacha has demanded the sur-  
render of the Greek steamer Erosis.War between the two Powers is considered inevit-  
able in Athens.The Patrie newspaper of Paris yesterday has an  
article on the Chinese Embassy, stating its objects,  
pointing out the advantages to arise from a wise  
treaty and wishes success to the mission.The London Express proposes that owners of  
English yachts of equal tonnage with the Danubius  
accept the challenge to race across the Atlantic.

## Japan.

Despatches from Hong Kong received in London  
yesterday confirm the re-establishment of the  
Mikado's government at Jeddo.

## Miscellaneous.

General Sheridan has arrived at Fort Cobb with  
Custer's command, and in a letter to General Sher-  
man says that he came upon a camp of Kiowas who  
had a letter from General Haze stating that they  
were friendly; but, discovering evidence of treach-  
ery among them, he seized Santana and Lone Wolf  
and threatened to hang them if all the Kiowas  
did not repair to Fort Cobb. The Kiowas were  
already coming into Fort Cobb, and he proposed to  
punish all of them who have been concerned in  
murders. The Cheyennes are very humble and Gen-  
eral Sheridan thinks that the novel idea of carrying  
on the war in winter time, will bring all the hostile  
tribes to terms.A conference of distinguished Virginians has been  
in session for two days in Richmond and yesterday  
they decided upon a preamble and resolutions, set-  
ting forth that to secure harmony they are willing  
to accept negro suffrage, provided it is coupled with  
universal amnesty. A committee of nine, with A.  
H. Stuart at the head, was appointed to lay their  
views before Congress.Alabama is desirous of annexing West Florida to  
her territory, and commissioners have been ap-  
pointed by Governor Smith to negotiate for the pur-  
pose.The new suspension bridge over Niagara river, a  
short distance below Niagara Falls, was opened to  
the public yesterday. Its span is 1,268 feet, the long-  
est in the world.James Tillinghast, Superintendent of the Buffalo  
division of the New York Central Railroad, has been  
appointed General Superintendent of the Central  
road, and has entered upon his duty.General Gillen, late Commander of the Fourth  
Military District, and General Reynolds, late Com-  
mander of the Fifth, have been ordered to Washing-  
ton.A large fire occurred in Bangor, Me., on Friday, by  
which several buildings, with their contents, were  
destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$250,000.The repair shops of the New York and New Haven  
Railroad in New Haven took fire on Friday and  
were destroyed, with two locomotives. The loss is  
estimated at \$100,000.Dr. Newman, an eminent New Orleans divine of  
Northern proclivities, is reported to have challenged  
D. Bennett, the editor of the St. Mary's (La.)  
Planter's Banner, to personal combat. He defends  
his belligerency by saying that "Moses, Joshua and  
David fought, and none of them had to contend  
with such children of the devil as the rebels of this  
country."At a prize fight between Pat O'Malley and Dan  
Carr at New Orleans on Tuesday, O'Malley was ter-  
ribly used up and lost the fight, and his adversary,  
who hardly received a scratch, was given a subscrip-  
tion purse by the crowd. Carr is but little known  
in New Orleans, and since this fight the "fancy" be-  
lieve that he is a champion of English light weights  
trio.

Governor Brownlow, of Tennessee, informs all

whom it may concern that he will not take any part  
in the scramble for office under the present adminis-  
tration, but when General Grant is inaugurated he  
proposes to take a hand.A romantic young lover near Ashland, Tenn.,  
stole the dead body of his sweetheart while it was  
lying in its coffin at her father's house on Christmas  
Eve and hid it in a cave. He was not detected  
until they went to bury the coffin, when he confessed  
and was forgiven.A clothing firm at Omaha has failed with liabilities  
amounting to \$50,000 to \$60,000.Joseph M. Davis, a Boston broker, has disappeared,  
and his accounts at the bank are reported to have  
been overdrawn by \$10,000.The Soldiers' Home at Chicago is to be kept open  
until spring by the local board of managers, who in-  
dignantly protest against General Butler's action  
closing the institution.The troubles between the whites and blacks on the  
Ogeechee river in Georgia still continue, and the  
citizens of Savannah are organizing. A force of  
United States troops, under General Sibley, are on  
their way to put down the disturbances.Caleb Giles, a famous rifle shot in Toronto,  
Canada, was accidentally shot and killed at a shoot-  
ing match near that city on New Year's Day.Henry Emerson, an orthodox deacon, of Reading,  
Mass., committed suicide on New Year's Day.One Adam Titus, of Shippensburg, Pa., has been  
arrested for the alleged murder of a stranger named  
Henry Steel, who was found buried, with his throat cut,  
near Titus' residence.On our title sheet this morning will be found our  
Sandwich Islands letter, with details of the news up  
to December 3; our letter from the Dry Tortugas, an  
extract from a Japan paper, giving a glance at the  
political aspect of that empire, and a lot of other  
interesting reading matter.The steamboat A. G. Brown collided with the  
steamship Teutonia, below New Orleans, on Wednes-  
day, and was immediately turned bottom up.  
Everybody and all the valuables were saved and the  
Teutonia was uninjured.

## The City.

At the final meeting of the Board of Councilmen  
yesterday donations were made to fourteen churches  
and schools amounting in the aggregate to over  
\$20,000, and several up town and one or two down  
town streets were ordered to be paved with Belgian  
pavement. The compensation of the clerks of both  
boards was increased. The usual complimentary  
resolutions were passed and the Board adjourned  
 sine die.The Cavalry Brigade of the First Division, National  
Guard, of this city, has been ordered to do duty here-  
after as Infantry.Mr. Rogers, who was stabbed in front of his own  
residence on Twelfth street, a day or two ago, died  
yesterday. A reward of \$500 is offered for the arrest  
of the murderer by the police authorities, who pro-  
fess to know who he is.Elsewhere in our columns this morning we give an  
interesting description of the dwellings of our lead-  
ing citizens on Fifth avenue.We also publish an instructive account of the pub-  
lic libraries of the city this morning.The stock market yesterday was steady and firm.  
Gold advanced to 135½, but receded to 135½. The  
weekly bank statement is regarded as favorable.Almost all of the markets were extremely quiet  
yesterday. Coffee was in moderate demand and  
prices were steady. Cotton was in active request  
from all classes of buyers and prices were ½c.  
higher, closing at 25½c. for middling uplands. On  
"Change flour was only moderately active but un-  
changed in value. Wheat remained dull but steady.  
Corn was in fair request and a shade firmer, while  
oats were quiet but held a shade higher. Pork,  
though quiet, was firmly held, while beef and lard  
were quiet but steady. Naval stores were more  
sought after and a shade firmer. Petroleum was  
quiet but firm at 31½c. for standard white and 31½c.  
for crude, in bulk. Freight rates were firm.The Chinese Embassy in London—Another  
Treaty.As an early result of the offices of the  
Chinese Ambassador in London we have the broad  
admission and promise that England does not  
desire or intend to apply any un-  
friendly pressure in order to induce China to  
advance more rapidly in her intercourse with  
foreign nations than is consistent with the  
safety and feelings of the Chinese people." In  
other words, England abandons entirely the  
position she formerly held with regard to China,  
and takes her place side by side with the United  
States in the resolution to treat the ancient  
empire in all respects as a responsible nation-  
ality. In order to see her own progress Eng-  
land has only to compare her present attitude  
toward the Eastern Power with the attitude  
she assumed in the opium war. That was in  
essence a war made to force on China a trade  
not "consistent with the safety and feelings of  
the Chinese people," and the most glaring  
example of "unfriendly pressure" known to  
the history of civilized governments. British  
traders could make money by the cultivation  
and transportation of the seductive poison.  
True, its use implied more degradation and  
misery than millions of British missionaries  
could sufficiently denounce; but the men to be  
made miserable were only Chinese, and the  
government that made laws against the  
trade was only the government of China;  
so that honest and moral Power, Great  
Britain, fostered smuggling on the Chinese  
coast, supplied the smugglers with armed  
boats to fight their way in, and finally covered  
with its flag a war intended to substitute the  
will and wishes of Great Britain for the will  
and wishes of China in the government of the  
Chinese people. That was the most striking  
example of the British policy. British policy has  
been the same ever since, although somewhat  
less glaring in its assumptions of superiority  
to all law and morality.It was left for Americans to set the first  
example of justice, humanity, toleration and  
even international decency toward the gov-  
ernment and people of China. We were the  
first of the civilized Powers to treat that nation  
as we would require that other nations should  
treat us—the first nation that did not make a  
cant of honesty and consider that the rules of  
right that governed our conduct in Europe or  
America were of no account in Asia. Our  
own laws had taught us tolerance toward every  
man's peculiar views, and not the narrow les-  
son of endeavoring to change the world be-  
cause it was not measured out and framed in  
accordance with our notions. In short, our  
diplomacy, being the newest and latest diplo-  
macy of the world, had in it more of the  
enlightenment, humanity and comprehensive  
statesmanship of this age than of the selfish  
traditions of the time that has passed away.Approaching the Chinese government in this  
spirit we naturally had at once great advan-  
tages over other Powers. It was perceived  
that our motives and morals were different  
from those of the European Powers. The  
Chinese saw that we did not want to colonize,  
did not want to force trade, but only encourage  
its growth, and that we were willing to accord  
advantages for every one extended. From  
the friendly relations thus established grew  
the treaty recently made between the Chinese  
government and our own. One of the more  
remarkable results of that treaty was that it  
practically introduced a new member into the  
family of nations—brought China into the in-  
ternational circle, supported and guaranteedby the alliance and friendship of the United  
States.This is the result that England more par-  
ticularly recognizes in her present action.  
China is guaranteed by us against unreason-  
able wars, and England, accepting the neces-  
sities of her position, relinquishes gracefully all  
intention and desire to use against the Chinese  
in the future such "unfriendly pressure" as she  
has never ceased to use since she gained her  
first foothold on the Chinese coast. She  
assents to the necessity of observing existing  
treaty stipulations; promises in any case of  
alleged grievance to lay these grievances  
honestly and fairly before the Chinese govern-  
ment proper, and not build up quasi potentates  
as her fancy may dictate and hold China to  
their bogus treaties; and finally agrees that  
the British flag shall not be used as a cover for  
warlike operations in China without direct  
authority from London. These provisions will  
prevent the troubles that have always been  
between China and the Powers that sought her  
shores for commerce, if straightforwardly  
acted upon, and it is satisfactory to see that  
there is some Power in the earth to force a  
recognition of the right kind of progress upon  
such an old and case-hardened sinner against  
all international rights as England has ever  
been.It will be seen from a cable despatch which  
we publish this morning, that the success of the  
Chinese mission in London is but an earnest  
of the success which will attend it in every  
capital of Europe. The Paris Patrie, in an  
editorial yesterday, regards the mission with  
favor and speaks hopefully of its success.

## Spain—The Insurrection in Malaga.

In this morning's HERALD we publish special  
cable despatches giving fuller details of the  
late rising in Malaga. The insurrection seems  
to have been more serious than we had been  
led to imagine. Happily the rising has been  
put down, but not until on the part of the  
insurgents four hundred were killed and six  
hundred made prisoners. The joint strength  
of certain war vessels lying in the harbor and  
the forces at the command of General De Roda  
proved too much for the undisciplined masses,  
and after a brief and, as far as appears, unequal  
struggle tranquility was restored.One unfortunate circumstance seems to have  
taken place while the tumult lasted and,  
as appears, immediately before fire was  
opened on the insurgents. One of the  
boats of the American gunboat Swatara,  
having on board an American family,  
and while proceeding from the shore to the  
ship, was fired into. We call this unfortunate;  
for an insult thus offered to our flag is very  
liable to produce in this country a feeling hos-  
tile to the popular cause in Spain. It is grat-  
ifying to know that General Serrano, without  
delay, expressed his regret to our Minister  
that such vandalism should have been com-  
mitted, assuring him at the same time that the  
offenders would be brought to justice. We  
shall be glad to learn that there has been  
some mistake in the matter, and that the insult  
was not intentional. In such a case it will be  
our minister's duty to plead for mercy. We  
have nothing to gain by a blind and unreason-  
ing vengeance. For the present it is needful  
that we suspend judgment.We have at the same time a curious  
announcement to the effect that it is the in-  
tention of the provisional government to  
disarm the citizens throughout the  
provinces before the assembling of the Cortes,  
and, so soon as the disarming is completed and  
before the Cortes have had time to act, to  
place Montpensier on the throne. Serrano,  
De Roda and Topete are said to be in favor of  
this step. Prim opposes it. If this rumor has  
any foundation in fact it shows that the gov-  
ernment dread the result of the elections. The  
people generally are supposed to be in favor  
of a republic; but they are completely under  
the heel of the military power which governs  
Spain now with an authority quite as high-  
banded as in the worst days of the past. If a  
coup d'etat be attempted in favor of Montpen-  
sier, Prim not joining it, or rather opposing it,  
the army is almost certain to be divided, and,  
as was the case in ancient Rome and in modern  
France, the successful general will be left  
master of the situation. It will not be won-  
derful if the dictatorship of Prim be yet ad-  
mitted to be a necessity. Spain has not yet  
reached the goal; it is doubtful whether she  
is near it.THE NEW YEAR STORM.—By the oldest in-  
habitant, white, black or copper-colored, we  
doubt whether there can be mentioned a more  
inclement and inhospitable Alaskan New Year  
wintry storm than that of the opening of 1869  
in this metropolis. "All hail," it was from  
Morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve,  
under a fierce nor'easter. At Washington it  
was "rain, mud and slush;" at Philadelphia it  
was rain and sleet; here it was all fine, sharp-  
cutting sleet; in Boston, Albany, Buffalo and  
Chicago it was all snow—interesting facts  
which show the gradual sinking of the ther-  
mometer from Washington northward. From  
the reports before us the storm extended in  
one direction from Southern Virginia and from  
Kentucky into the British Possessions, and in  
the other at least from the Mississippi river  
into the Atlantic ocean. It was one of those  
great nor'easters peculiar to the zone of the  
Northern States between the Atlantic and the  
Mississippi, the base of operations of which is  
the Gulf Stream, whence these great storms  
strike in between Cape Hatteras and Fortres  
Monroe upon the land. South of Cape Hatteras  
they are governed by another system of storms  
to the Gulf of Mexico.THE CORNER GROCERIES AND THE BOHE-  
MIANS.—The proprietors of the corner gro-  
ceries and liquor saloons of this city are all  
sound, solid democrats, whose patron saint is  
St. Tammany and who always vote the regu-  
lar ticket. This may be supposed to be their  
own business, and yet it brings all sorts of  
misfortunes upon their heads. Greeley abuses  
them roundly because they refuse to train  
with the radicals, and their own organ assails  
them as thieves, swindlers and pickpockets  
because they laughed at the idea of making  
its Bohemian editor Mayor of the city.TURKEY AND GREECE—THE CONFERENCE.—  
Cable despatches which we publish this morn-  
ing show that the trouble between Turkey and  
Greece is not yet ended, that the conference is  
likely to be held on an early day and that both  
the Powers just mentioned will be repre-  
sented.

## Another Triumph Against Nature in Science.

At a meeting of the Lyceum of Natural  
History a few evenings since Professor Joy,  
of Columbia College, announced the probable  
discovery of metallic hydrogen by Mr. T. H.  
Graham, of the Royal Society of London.Hitherto hydrogen has been known only as a  
gas, and known in that form only for about a  
hundred years, and the knowledge of its impor-  
tance as an elementary body is extended much  
beyond the circles of merely scientific men.The people know of it in the most contra-  
dictory relations—on the one hand as a highly  
inflammable body in our common gas, and in  
that terribly fierce bit of fire the oxy-hydrogen  
blow pipe, and again, as the foe of all fire, when  
united with oxygen it forms water. Strange  
that water and the fiercest fire known should  
be different combinations of the same ele-  
ments. All the world, perhaps, knows that  
this gas was formerly always used to elevate  
balloons, because it was so much lighter than  
the air; and the people who have worn that  
lesson well into their brains will now, no  
doubt, be rather puzzled by the science which  
tells them that this body, lighter than the air,  
has been followed through all its disguises,  
shifts and refuges and caught at last in its  
definite form as a metal, for by this name  
they will compare it with iron or copper,  
though they ought to class it with quick-  
silver. The interest of hydrogen in every  
enlarged and philosophical study of chemistry  
is at once seen in the consideration of its  
wonderful diffusion in nature, of its strangely  
dissimilar relations to other bodies and of its  
potential character in all these relations.Although only known as a gas, chemists  
have long seen that the relations of this body  
tended to place it among the metals. In order  
to properly understand this people should  
thoroughly get out of their heads the common  
idea of metals based on the knowledge of iron  
and lead, unless they will look particularly at  
one point in regard to these metals. It is a  
familiar fact, for instance, that iron and lead  
are melted by very different degrees of heat.  
Any common coal or wood fire will melt lead,  
but not iron. In the same way other metals  
are fluid at very different temperatures. One  
metal is solid and hard at the temperature of  
the air, but is fluid at a very high heat and  
becomes vapor at a still higher heat. Another  
metal, solid at the temperature of the air, but  
not hard, becomes fluid under moderate heat,  
and vaporizes also; while a third metal is of  
such a nature that it is only solid at a tem-  
perature much lower than that of the air, and  
the temperature of the air may be regarded as  
its melting point, a slight additional heat being  
sufficient to make the fluid a vapor. Now, the  
metallic hydrogen, or hydrogenium, must be  
regarded as holding a position on the same  
line somewhat beyond this third metal—as a  
metal whose character is such that at the tem-  
perature or under conditions where some other  
metals are solid and brittle, some merely  
solid and some fluid, this is vaporized to an  
intense degree.Mr. Graham was led to his discovery of  
hydrogenium by some observations of what is  
called the "occlusion" of hydrogen gas, and his  
first paper was read, we believe, before the  
Royal Society in May, 1867, and subsequently  
printed in the Philosophical Magazine.Much earlier experiments made by Mr. Grove  
and by Professor Magnus, of Berlin (and  
quoted by Tyndal), had shown what was called  
the "cooling property of hydrogen." With a  
platinum wire heated to a white heat the con-  
tact of air only reduced the temperature to a  
red heat; but the contact of hydrogen  
quenched the wire altogether, and it required  
five times the former heat to bring this wire  
to a white heat in hydrogen gas. The fact  
there was that the hydrogen combined with  
the metal and made a new body, possessing  
the distinguishing peculiarity that it bore a  
very different relation from the pure metal to  
given degrees of heat. Mr. Graham's experi-  
ments on the occlusion—that is, the absorp-  
tion—of hydrogen gas by certain metals in cer-  
tain conditions are in the same direction.They show that metals may be saturated by  
hydrogen, and that they thus undergo some  
change seen in their different properties, and  
they apparently prove that hydrogen is capable  
of assuming some other than a gaseous form  
and of making alloys with known metals.Every step like this in the progress of sci-  
entific discovery is important for the results it  
promises practically in the chemistry of the  
arts and philosophically and speculatively in  
the chemistry of nature and creation. Dis-  
covery is constantly revolutionizing the world  
in all spheres, and a discovery of this sort,  
like the discovery of the clue in a labyrinth,  
may some day suddenly open men's eyes to a  
knowledge of their real relation to many sur-  
rounding mysteries and wonders, and it is not  
their least interest that they may yet help us  
to some dim guess of the steps by which the  
great globe itself was condensed from chaotic  
vapor. And then the question will be, where  
did the vapor come from?

## The Brooklyn Bridge.

Apparently we may now regard the building  
of a bridge over the East river as certain, and  
may even contemplate an early commence-  
ment of the work. Five million dollars are  
ready to begin with; for it is understood that  
the subscription of a million and a half dollars  
by this city is to make up the amount that  
must be subscribed before the Brooklyn sub-  
scription is due. The total cost of the bridge  
proper is to be eight million dollars, and its  
termini will be, in this city the open space  
just east of the City Hall, the junction of  
Chatham and Centre streets, and in Brook-  
lyn the junction of Fulton and Main streets.Passengers will be propelled from one end to  
the other of this line in vehicles moved by  
stationary engines.Practically this grand structure will make  
Brooklyn and New York one city, and that  
city will inevitably be the greatest in the  
world. By making the points at the two ends  
of this bridge only five minutes apart and not  
subject to the accidents, delay and other  
nuisances of ferry or ordinary street car  
transit we overcome what has hitherto been  
a great obstacle to the proper growth and  
expansion of this city—namely, the want of  
room in the proper direction. The East river  
is no longer a limit. There is still room on  
the upper end of New York Island, but it is  
inaccessible. Now the whole of Brooklyn,  
Williamsburg and the suburban districts, as  
well as the level fields of the country beyond,are open to the crowding population of the  
metropolis, to the great amelioration of the  
condition of the people.We believe this bridge is only the first of a  
series. We shall by and by look upon the East  
river as only an American Thames or Seine,  
and join the cities on its shores by as many  
bridges as span those intramural streams. It  
is proper that our Thames and Seine should  
be on a rather grander scale than those in  
Europe.General Butler in a New Character—A  
Famous Scene in the White House.General Ben Butler has come to be almost  
universally regarded as a fierce, remorseless  
and implacable partisan politician, and as  
about the last man among the ultra radicals to  
make a special complimentary social call  
upon Andy Johnson. But this opinion can no  
longer be entertained; for most conspicuous  
among the thousands of distinguished persons  
who called upon the President to pay their  
respects on New Year's Day was General  
Butler. An eye-witness testifies to the fact,  
and says that "the meeting was extremely  
cordial on both sides;" that "Butler grasped  
his political foe by both hands, shaking them  
with the utmost warmth;" that "President  
Johnson reciprocated heartily," and that  
"both stood face to face for at least five  
minutes, with clasped hands, chatting and  
smiling like the oldest and closest of friends;"  
that Butler's eye twinkled, that Johnson's  
eyes twinkled likewise; that "Johnson's face  
was all over smiling and happy," and that  
Butler's "was radiant as a full moon, beam-  
ing with mildness, benevolence and affection.""Behold how pleasant a thing it is for men  
and brethren to dwell together in unity." What  
a beautiful illustration is here of General  
Grant's motto—"Let us have peace!" It is a  
subject for the finest artist, with pen or pencil,  
to set to music or to give to posterity in oil  
colors this "Happy New Year" meeting and  
greeting between Butler and Johnson—the great  
impacher and the great impeached.And what is the interpretation thereof?  
It is this: that Butler is not the hor-  
rible radical ogre he has been repre-  
sented, but an amiable man, who draws a  
line between his political and his social rela-  
tions and between his partisan and his personal  
duties. This manly proceeding on his part  
shows, too, that he thinks and acts for  
himself; that he has a mind and a will of his  
own, and has no fear of the consequences of  
acting according to his own judgment. And  
there may be a still deeper meaning in this  
White House New Year call, which in due  
season will be developed.But where was General Grant meantime?  
He spent his New Year day in Philadelphia,  
and it is generally understood purposely to  
avoid a New Year call upon the President.  
But there is a sharply defined question of  
veracity pending between these men, which is  
a personal matter, and which must be settled  
before there can be any personal courtesies  
between them, or at least before General Grant,  
a soldier, touched in his tenderest point, can  
take the initiative. We have, therefore, a  
peace proposition to submit to General Butler.  
Reconciled with General Grant in reference  
to that affair of being "corked up in a bottle,"  
and reinstated fully in his old kindly personal  
relations with Johnson, General Butler is in a  
good position to take the part of mediator  
between Grant and Johnson. Let him do so;  
let us see the outgoing and incoming Presi-  
dent riding up to the Capitol, like "Old Buck"  
and "Old Abe," side by side, and "let us have  
peace."

## Grant and Reform.

Our President elect is famous for his re-  
tience, but there is one thing he is not silent  
about, and that is the necessity of reform in  
the government. He has spoken several times  
on this subject, and always forcibly, showing  
how impressed his mind is with it, and that he  
is resolved to bring about reform. He is going  
to be a reformer, and there is great need of  
such a President. However, it is no light work  
that lies before him. It is a work that will re-  
quire all the resolution, skill and dogged per-  
severance that characterized his closing cam-  
paign against the rebellion. Nearly every de-  
partment of the civil service is disorganized  
and inefficient. Corruption has become so gen-  
eral and defiant that it mocks the law and is  
without shame. In fact, robbing the government  
is no longer regarded as immoral. The Treasury  
Department is a sink of iniquity. The reve-  
nue service, in connection with the whiskey  
ring, is the most astounding and bare-  
faced organization of government robbers  
with which any country was ever cursed.A hundred millions a year—more than  
sufficient to support the current expenses  
of government when economically adminis-  
tered—have been stolen by revenue thieves.  
This has all been the result of inefficiency and  
maladministration of the government. Then,  
Congress has shown itself to be the most cor-  
rupt and recklessly extravagant public body  
that exists or that ever was known in this  
country. Andrew Johnson was its convenient  
bête noire. While abusing him as the source  
of all mischief, for the purpose of throwing  
dust in the eyes of the people, this corrupt  
body has been carrying out all sorts of jobs,  
increasing the burdens of the people enor-  
mously and saddling the country with an over-  
whelming debt. It has made poor Johnson  
the scapegoat of its iniquity. But this cannot  
be done with General Grant. He is fresh,  
untrammelled and the successful candidate of  
the majority in Congress. Let him follow,  
then, the honest promptings of his nature,  
begin in earnest the reforms he sees are needed  
in the executive departments, making the  
head of each responsible for the faithful ex-  
ecution of the laws, and cut down the expendi-  
tures to the lowest figure. Let him do this in  
spite of the trammels put upon the Executive  
by Congress and he will place that body in  
the dilemma either of having to yield to his re-  
forms or to bear the odium of thwarting his  
honest efforts to purify the government. He  
may by such a bold stand and by setting such  
an example reform even Congress itself. At  
all events he will be sustained by the people  
and the independent press. If he should tem-  
porize or abdicate his constitutional power in  
administering the laws he will be in trouble  
from the start and his administration will be a  
failure. He occupies the advantage ground,  
and if he be as skillful in civil affairs as in war  
we shall have reform.

## Mexican Brigandage.

The little settlement of Clarksville, on our  
side of the river at the mouth of the Rio  
Grande, has been the scene of a raid from a  
band of Mexican banditti, involving the mur-  
der of two worthy citizens and the loss of con-  
siderable property, public and private. The  
brigands came, overhauled the town, gathered  
up their plunder, recrossed the river and dis-  
appeared. This affair serves to bring into  
bold relief the unsettled condition of things  
along our whole Mexican border, and the  
unsettled condition of Mexico itself, from the  
Rio Grande and the Gila down to Yucatan.Forty years of revolutions and fighting fac-  
tions have established brigandage as the  
favorite pursuit of the disappointed or dis-  
banded soldier or politician, the unlucky  
gambler and every order of vagrants and  
adventurers, especially in the short intervals  
when there has been no intestine war for the  
Presidency and no common struggle against a  
foreign invader.When, in 1864, the Council of Notables was  
convened in the Mexican capital in behalf of  
Maximilian, their first plea in support of the  
empire, forced upon the country by Napoleon's  
bayonets, was that for forty years Mexico had  
been governed by bandits and outlaws, and  
that Maximilian had come to give them a  
government of law and order. This plea, too,  
was held as a justification for the intervention  
by many honest people in the United States, who  
held that a reign of law and order was the